

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims where indicated.

1. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for installing framing material hangers, comprising:
a table having a base panel;
a selectively operable actuator mounted relative to the table, the actuator including a piston, wherein the actuator is spaced apart from the base panel a distance;
a magazine operable to receive one or more hangers, the magazine having a first end positioned adjacent the piston of the actuator; and
wherein operating the actuator causes the piston or a member connected to the piston to contact at least one of the hangers and drive it toward the base panel.
2. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the actuator is selectively positionable relative to the base panel.
3. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the actuator is selectively positionable along two axes relative to the base panel
4. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the actuator is selectively positionable to increase or decrease the distance between the actuator and the base panel.
5. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the base panel includes gradations indicating position on the base panel relative to the actuator.
6. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the table further includes a back panel connected to the base panel.
7. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the back panel is selectively positionable relative to the base panel.
8. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the table further includes a side panel connected to the base panel.

9. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the side panel is selectively positionable relative to the base panel.
10. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the side panel includes gradations indicating position on the side panel relative to the actuator.
11. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1, further including one or more positional stops that are selectively attachable to the base panel.
12. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the base panel is selectively positionable relative to the actuator.
13. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a switch operable to cause the selectively operable actuator to operate.
14. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the table further includes a back panel connected to the base panel, and the switch is mounted on the back panel.
15. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the switch is positioned relative to the actuator so that the switch can be operated by contact with framing material disposed between the base panel and the actuator.
16. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the magazine has a channel with a cross-sectional geometry that mates with geometry of the hangers.
17. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the magazine extends laterally outwardly from the first end.

18. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the hangers each have a pair of legs and a web disposed between the legs, and the magazine is configured to receive hangers in a manner such that legs of the hangers are substantially aligned along a single line.

19. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the magazine extends aft from the first end.

20. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the hangers each have a pair of legs and a web disposed between the legs, and the magazine is configured to receive hangers such that the webs of adjacent hangers are substantially parallel and spaced apart from each other.

21. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the magazine is operable to receive a stack of hangers connected to one another.

22. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the stack of hangers is connected to one another by tabs, wherein operation of the actuator causes the tabs connecting the hanger being driven by the actuator to the stack to be sheared.

23. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a head assembly disposed between adjacent the first end of the magazine and the actuator.

24. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a hanger feed mechanism.

25. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the hanger feed mechanism comprises a selectively operable feed actuator, a pawl attached to the feed actuator, and a biasing member;

wherein the feed actuator is operable to move hangers within the channel of the magazine.

26. (Currently Amended) A stack of hangers for framing material, comprising:
a plurality of hangers, each having a web extending between a pair of legs, which legs extend outwardly from the web in a direction substantially perpendicular to the web,
and a barbed member extending out from each leg; and
one or more shearable tabs extending between, and attaching, adjacent ones of the plurality of hangers.

27. (Currently Amended) The stack of hangers of claim 26, wherein each leg has a shoulder surface spaced apart from the web, and the barbed member extends out from each respective leg adjacent the shoulder surface.

28. (Original) The stack of hangers of claim 27, wherein an opening is disposed between adjacent hangers within the stack.

29. (Original) The stack of hangers of claim 26, wherein the tabs each have a feature that facilitates shearing of the tab.

30. (Original) The stack of hangers of claim 26, wherein the hangers are oriented within the stack such that legs of the hangers within the stack are substantially aligned along a single line.

31. (Original) The stack of hangers of claim 26, wherein the hangers are oriented such that the webs of adjacent hangers within the stack are substantially parallel and spaced apart from each other.

32. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for installing framing material hangers, comprising:

a handle;

a selectively operable actuator mounted relative to the handle, the actuator including a piston;

a magazine operable to hold one or more hangers, the magazine having a first end positioned adjacent the piston of the actuator; and

wherein operating the actuator causes the piston or a member connected to the piston to contact and drive at least one of the hangers.

33. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 32, further comprising a switch operable to cause the selectively operable actuator to operate.

34. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the magazine has a channel with a cross-sectional geometry that mates with a geometry of the hangers.

35. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the magazine further includes a biasing element for biasing hangers disposed within the channel toward the first end.

36. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the magazine is configured to receive hangers, each hanger having a pair of legs and a web disposed between the legs, in such a manner that the webs of adjacent hangers are substantially parallel and spaced apart from each other.